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SUBJECT: ANKARA MEDIA REACTION REPORT
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2003

THIS REPORT WILL PRESENT A TURKISH PRESS SUMMARY UNDER
THREE THEMES:

HEADLINES
BRIEFING
EDITORIAL OPINION

HEADLINES

MASS APPEAL

General Ozkok to Ask General Jones About Iraq - Milliyet
PKK Condition From Ankara - Turkiye
Holbrooke: "Iraq Could be Dismembered in the Future" -
Milliyet
Germany Promises Support for Turkey's EU Bid - Hurriyet
A German Promise - Sabah
Trade Bank of Iraq Established -- Akbank becomes Partner -
Sabah
Protests Against Bush at Al-Hakim's Funeral - Turkiye
PKK Establishes A New Party - Milliyet
FM Gul Receives Warm Welcome in Vienna - Milliyet

OPINION MAKERS

US Used WMDs in Iraq - Cumhuriyet
Holbrooke: "Iraq's Borders are Wrong" - Cumhuriyet
EU Traffic Will Intensify in September - Radikal
One Million Shiites Attend Al-Hakim's Funeral - Radikal
PKK/KADEK Ends Cease-Fire - Yeni Safak

BRIEFING

PM Erdogan's Visit To Germany: All papers give extensive front-page coverage to PM Erdogan's visit to Germany. "Sabah" reports that German Chancellor Schroeder extended full support to Turkey's EU bid. Schroeder said that the accession of Turkey to the EU is in Germany's interest, and promised that Turkey would not be let down by Germany. "Hurriyet" highlights German Foreign Minister Fischer's comment that "this time Suleyman the Magnificent will not be turned away from the gates of Vienna."

FM Gul Visit To Austria: "Milliyet" reports that foreign minister Gul received a warm welcome in Vienna, where he met with the Austrian PM and FM. During the meetings, Gul gave details about Turkey's EU harmonization reforms recently approved by parliament. "Radikal" reports that both Erdogan and Gul told their European counterparts Turkey's goal is to begin accession talks as soon as possible. The paper added that Ankara has accelerated its diplomatic efforts as the EU commission begins to review Turkey's EU entry bid.

General Jones' Visit: All papers report that General Jones arrived yesterday evening and will hold meetings with Defense Minister Vecdi Gonul and TGS Chief Ozkok today. "Milliyet" speculates that General Ozkok and General Jones will discuss the PKK/KADEK presence in Northern Iraq. "Turkiye" predicts that the Turkish side will urge General Jones step up efforts to eliminate the PKK threat in northern Iraq. "Cumhuriyet" notes that Turkey is upset by the perceived unwillingness of the US to press for the return of PKK terrorists to Turkey within the framework of Turkey's repentance law. Papers speculate that General Jones will specify which sector in Iraq could be handed over to Turkish troops.

Remarks of Richard Holbrooke: "Milliyet" reports on remarks by former USUN representative Richard Holbrooke. In an interview with Fox TV, Holbrooke said that "the borders established for Iraq in 1922 were a mistake. In 1991, he said, Presidents Bush and Ozal could have corrected this

mistake, but chose not to do so. As a result of the mistakes made in drawing up the map of Iraq, Holbrooke concluded, Iraq could disintegrate in the near future, and Iraq's neighbors - including Turkey -- could attempt to absorb various parts of the country.'

PKK/KADEK: "Milliyet" reports that the PKK, through its spokesman Mizgin Sen, announced that the cease-fire declared in 1999 has been ended. The Interior Ministry announced that the PKK/KADEK has established a new party called the 'Demokratik Serhildan Party.' According to an Interior Ministry document, the party intends to prepare terrorist attacks in Turkey's large cities.

EDITORIAL OPINION

"We cannot remain indifferent to Iraq"
Mehmet Ali Birand wrote in the mass appeal Posta (9/3):
"There is a significant threat that Iraq might be dissolved into three parts. . The possibility for establishing a democracy in Iraq under a single administration is growing ever weaker. Turkey is obliged to intervene in Iraq. . Terrorism in the Middle East is now concentrated in Iraq. Turkey will either stand against terror or merely watch it. It might be too late when it hits us later. . It is unlikely that the U.S. will withdraw from Iraq. . It might take long years and come at a great cost, but the balances in the Middle East will definitely change."

"The end of Denktas"
Okay Gonensin noted in the mass appeal Vatan (9/3): "For the past 40 years, Ankara has believed that there cannot be a Cyprus policy other than the one that has been pursued by Denktas. The Greek Cypriots have advanced, in the political and economic sense, while the Turkish Cypriots remain as they were four decades ago. . Cyprus has always remained a taboo in Turkey. . Denktas recently said that if he is defeated in the Turkish Cypriot elections, he will launch a new struggle with the backing of the Turkish people. His remarks are a clear indication that Turkish Cypriots, just like a significant part of the Turkish nation, do not support Denktas anymore. . He is really acknowledging the mistakes that have been over the past 40 years."

EDELMAN